IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:	)	Confirmation No.: 3752
	)	
Kazuo YAMASHITA et al.	)	Art Unit: 1793
	)	
Serial No: 10/556,934	)	Examiner: Micali, Joseph
	)	
National Phase Filed: November 16, 2005	)	

For: PRECIPITATED CALCIUM CARBONATE, METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE SAME AND FILLER FOR LOADING PAPER USING THE SAME

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF OCTOBER 19, 2010

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the office action of October 19, 2010.

With regard to the rejection under 35 USC 112, 2nd paragraph, the Examiner's attention is directed to the amendments made during the International phase, changing the language in question to read "3 or more," translations of which were filed November 16, 2005 with the papers initiating the U.S. national phase.

The rejection of claims 1 and 3-9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) for obviousness over Tanabe et al in view of Nakajima et al is respectfully traversed for the reason that the rejection is based on an improper combination of teachings directed to very different products.

Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested in light of the distinction between naturally occurring calcium carbonate, characterized by Tanabe et al and Nakajima et al as "heavy calcium carbonate," and synthetic calcium carbonate. The distinction is recognized and discussed at length by both Tanabe et al and Nakajima et al. See column 1, lines 17-51, of Nakajima et al and column 1, lines 32-65 of Tanabe et al. Nakajima et al teach that "the so-called heavy calcium carbonate powder is produced by finely pulverizing naturally occurring calcium carbonate minerals such as limestone, calcite and the like" (column 1, lines 19-22) and that such "heavy calcium carbonate" powders are "irregular" in shape (column 1, lines 30-32). Likewise, Tanabe et al, at column 1, lines 32-40, teach that "heavy